Press Release

Asian Development Bank (ADB) has agreed to provide US \$3.5 million grant equivalent to NRs 339 million for the implementation of Establishing Women and Children Service Centers (EWCSC-AF) project. An agreement to this effect was signed and exchanged at the Ministry of Finance, Kathmandu, today.

The objective of EWCSC project is to improve access of women and children in participating districts to legal protection and social support services. The project will help reduce the gender based violence, promote the justice, social consultation and awareness activities. The project will be extended to 20 districts from the current 5 districts with this additional cofinancing. The additional 15 districts are namely Saptari, Achham, Siraha, Bajhang, Mahottari, Rolpa, Dolakha, Banke, Rasuwa, Dhading, Gorkha, Tanahu, Surkhet, Sindhuli and Pyuthan.

After the implementation of the project, it is expected that the survivor or women and children, heavily affected mainly by the Gender Violence, will have easy access to police offices and legal systems. They will, somehow, be capable enough to handle their problems. The praiseworthy role of police officials is anticipated to make this project fruitful as they have had in previous phase. Since the previous phase of this project appeared to be successful to address our gender based violence incidents, the GoN acknowledged and requested the ADB for the continuation of this project. In fact, this Additional financing is no more than the consequence of its previous phase. The project will be implemented until 31 March, 2018.

Mr. Madhu Kumar Marasini, Joint Secretary/Chief of International Economic Cooperation Coordination Division, Ministry of Finance and Mr. Kenichi Yokoyama, Country Director, the Asian Development Bank, Nepal signed the financing agreement on behalf of the Government of Nepal and the ADB, respectively.

The Government of Nepal has expressed its appreciation to the Asian Development Bank for this assistance and its continued support in the socio-economic development of Nepal.

Ministry of Finance Singh durbar, Kathmandu, Nepal September 24, 2014 (Ashoj 8, 2014)